

including: Robin Hood Foundation Hero of the Year Award, New York City Award, American Institute for Public Service Jefferson Award, Points of Light Award (Awarded by George Bush), and Maxwell House Hero Search Award. Among the many honors he has received, Rocky was selected to carry the Olympic torch down Fifth Avenue in New York City, en route to Atlanta, in 1996. Rocky's status as a hero was even recognized by the children of Wilkes Country Elementary School in North Carolina, who named him as their black hero in 1998. (Choosing him by a landslide over the other candidates, including Michael Jordan). Of all the honors and awards that Rocky has earned, he describes his greatest reward as the satisfaction he enjoys from seeing young people succeed in medical careers after training with BSVAC.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing James "Rocky" Robinson, an "on-call," unselfish community servant.

#### HONORING THE POINTS OF LIGHT INSTITUTE

#### HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 16, 2009*

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize an important milestone in the history of an organization that has made a difference in the lives of many Americans and many communities across the nation—the Points of Light Institute.

Twenty years ago, a newly-inaugurated President George H.W. Bush challenged us to "bring in the generations, harnessing the unused talent of the elderly and the unfocused energy of the young . . . to spread like stars throughout the Nation, doing good." It was this challenge that became the foundation of the Points of Light initiative. President Obama dramatically expanded this movement with his leadership of the bipartisan Edward M. Kennedy Serve America Act, legislation that I sponsored, which was signed into law earlier this year.

The Points of Light Foundation recently merged with Hands On Network to form the Points of Light Institute. This organization has been transforming American lives and communities around the nation, offering tangible and meaningful ways for people to serve.

In 2008, the Points of Light Institute and its 250 Hands On volunteer action centers engaged over 1.2 million volunteers in service and managed over 520,000 volunteer projects. The value of this service is over \$600 million, a remarkable contribution to the health and welfare of American communities from Seattle to Miami.

One of Points of Light's affiliates is the Long Island Volunteer Center headquartered in my Congressional District. Daily, this great local organization connects individuals and groups to help nonprofit organizations expand programs and services that improve the environment, mentor at-risk youth, assist the elderly, help hungry and homeless people, and enhance appreciation of cultural arts.

Congratulations to Points of Light on this 20 year anniversary and for the many acts of service that have improved the lives of those

in need in our midst. We all look forward to many more years of inspiring work.

Madam Speaker, it is with pride and admiration I offer my thanks and recognition to Points of Light Institute.

#### A TRIBUTE TO ERMA A. WINSLOW

#### HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 16, 2009*

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Erma A. Winslow, a dedicated educator and community servant.

Erma Winslow is a retired administrator and guidance counselor for the New York City Board of Education. Ms. Winslow was a counselor and assistant to the principal at Joan of Arc Junior High School, a guidance counselor at Junior High School 258, and a guidance counselor at Richmond Hill High School. While working for the Board of Education, Ms. Winslow was committed to providing quality counseling to elementary, middle, and high school students. Ms. Winslow's areas of expertise are in education, special education, guidance and counseling, curriculum development, recreation, library and media services.

Ms. Winslow holds a Master's Degree in Health Education from Columbia University, a Master's Degree in Guidance and Counseling from Fordham University, and a Bachelor's Degree in Health and Recreation from Talladega College in Alabama. She was founder and chair of Bedford Stuyvesant Community Block Association. She is also the recipient of a community service award and a guidance counselor award for her tireless service to the New York City Board of Education.

Erma has successfully counseled junior high and high school students, assisting them in meeting their academic, personal and social needs, so they could be active in the communities in which they live.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing Erma A. Winslow.

#### A TRIBUTE TO TERESA COAXUM

#### HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 16, 2009*

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Teresa Coaxum, a tireless leader in the community.

Born and raised in Walterboro South Carolina, Ms. Coaxum began her career at Johnson C. Smith University in Charlotte, North Carolina at the age of 16. Shortly after her first semester she moved to New York and completed her Bachelor's degree and later her Master's degree at John Jay College of Criminal Justice. Ms. Coaxum would later graduate from Harvard's Kennedy School of Government's Senior Managers in Government Executive Program. Always one to know the true importance of education, Ms. Coaxum is also a graduate of Coro Leadership New York XV.

In Ms. Coaxum's former job, she served as Project Manager of Community Relations under Brooklyn District Attorney, Charles

Hynes. There she addressed the needs of residents in Crown Heights, Prospect Heights, Bedford-Stuyvesant, Stuyvesant Heights, East Flatbush, and Bushwick by successfully coordinating community agencies, organizations, churches and elected officials in major initiatives such as ComALERT (Community and Law Enforcement Resources Together), a district attorney program that assists people on probation and parolees in getting jobs, training and education in Crown Heights and Bedford Stuyvesant.

Ms. Coaxum has worked tirelessly to empower New York residents through her commitment to community and human services. In her current position, she works countless hours directing community outreach and planning in NYC, assisting in the management of Senator SCHUMER's eight regional offices, as well as advising the Senator and his Washington, D.C. staff on key policy issues.

Ms. Coaxum is a lifetime member of the NAACP. She serves on several committees such as John Jay College of Criminal Justice Alumni Association as the 2nd Vice President, Interfaith Medical Center Auxiliary, Church Women United, Community Board 8, Partnership for Youth and Community Empowerment, Brooklyn Blizzard Youth Organization, The Women's Caucus for Ed Towns, and Brooklyn Young Democrats.

In recognition of her loyalty and service, Ms. Coaxum was selected as one of The Network Journal's "Top 40 under 40 Dynamic Leaders" in June 2009, and as one of City Hall News' "Rising Stars 40 under 40". She received the John Jay College Alumni of the Year Award, various community service awards from Concord Family Services and the 77th, 79th, 81st, 83rd Precinct Community Councils. Among her many honors and recognitions, she has also received The Harriet Tubman Humanitarian Award and Proclamations from Senator Carl Andrews and Brooklyn Borough President Marty Markowitz, as well as Special Recognition from Congressman EDOLPHUS "Ed" TOWNS, and Citations from Assemblyman Vito Lopez, New York City Councilmembers Erik Dilan and Diana Reyna, and former Councilman James E. Davis for dedication and hard work in the community.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing this relentless and dynamic community leader.

#### A TRIBUTE TO REVEREND ANDRÉ RAMÓN SOLEIL

#### HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 16, 2009*

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Reverend André Ramón Soleil, a seasoned lawyer, artist and entrepreneur with an extraordinary life story.

Reverend Soleil was raised in New Hope Baptist Church, Niagara Falls, New York, a church founded by his great-grandparents during the great migration of African-Americans northward to New York from North Carolina in the early 1900s. He was a member of the choir, an usher and a Sunday school teacher. At age 12, André confessed Jesus as Lord, was baptized and filled with the Holy Spirit. At 13, Pastor Belk recognized God's call on